

10/562682

IAP5 Rec'd PCT/PTO 28 DEC 2005

PATENT
0501-1152

IN THE U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Jean-Pierre MARC et al. Conf.

Application No. NEW NATIONAL PHASE Group

Filed December 28, 2005 Examiner

LOCKING DEVICE AND PIPE COUPLING PROVIDED THEREWITH

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

December 28, 2005

Sir:

The following preliminary amendments and remarks are respectfully submitted in connection with the above-identified application.

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begin on page 3 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 6 of this paper.

An **Appendix** is attached following the signature page of this paper.